PHILOSOPHY 1304  
WORLD RELIGION  
MOUNTAIN VIEW COLLEGE  
FALL 2012

Instructor:  Dr. Paul Benson  
Office:  W-277  
Office Hours:  8:30-10:00AM Monday & Wednesday/8:30-9:30AM Tuesday & Thursday  
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CERTIFICATION STATEMENT
Students must begin attendance in all classes of enrollment. No exceptions. Financial Aid **will not** be granted to students who have been certified as not attending, by the certification date. For this lecture course, your physical participation in class, on or before the certification date will allow you to receive credit for FA purposes. For certification dates, check with the division or FAO for further information. Students who are not certified as beginning class are responsible for any payments due as a result of non-certification, to include the dropping of courses.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:
PHIL 1304 is a survey course covering some of the major religions of the world including Hinduism, Buddhism, Greco-Roman, Egyptian, Native American, and Islam. Dominant characteristics of these world's major religious traditions will be identified and explained as well as key personages scriptures, and beliefs of these religious traditions. Critical thinking skills will be applied by analyzing the impact of selected religious world views on society. Students will be asked to create and defend informed personal responses to selected religious traditions.

EDUCATIONAL OUTCOMES/COMPETENCIES:
Upon successful completion of this course, a student will:

- Produce a comprehensive notebook including:
  1. a unit on each religion  
  2. a critique of each field trip experience  
  3. a personal "religious" family tree or videos

Describe key ancient/contemporary religious traditions including those of:

- India/China/Japan  
- Mesopotamia/Persia  
- Egypt  
- Israel  
- Greece/Rome  
- Phoenicia  
- Europe  
- South & Central America
BOOKS/MATERIALS:
1. No Text
2. Student notebook (3 ring hard cover notebook with pockets and tabs to separate sections)

CLASS PROCEDURES
Attending class is vital to passing this course. Absences will be excused for good and sufficient reasons, but any student having more than 5 excused absences and 2 unexcused absences will NOT be able to pass the course. Dropping a class is totally the student's responsibility. Failure to drop a class will result in a letter grade of "F." The last day a student can drop and receive a "W" is November 15, 2012.

UNITS OF STUDY:
Unit 1 Native Religions of the Americas
Unit 2 Egypt
Unit 3 Mesopotamia & Zoroastrianism
Unit 4 Greece and Rome
Unit 5 Hinduism
Unit 6 Buddhism
Unit 7 Islam

EVALUATION PROCEDURES:
All assignments are collected in the student's notebook, which will be turned in just prior to finals. In order to pass this course, a student must complete the following items including:
1. one unit on every religion (covering lecture notes)
2. one critique sheet for each field trip experience
3. one personal "religious" family tree

Each student's grade will be determined according to the following formula:
A = 1. Complete notebook with
   2. At least 4 field trips or appropriate substitute assignment (Hinduism/Buddhism/Islam must be included) and
   3. Perfect attendance (3 or fewer excused absences and unexcused absences)

B = 1. Notebook with minor material missing with
   2. At least 3 field trips or appropriate substitute assignment Hinduism Buddhism/Islam (must be included) and
   3. Excellent attendance (4 or fewer excused absences and 1 unexcused absence)

C = 1. Notebook with major material missing with
   2. At least 2 field trips or appropriate substitute assignment and
   3. Good attendance (5 or fewer excused absences and 2 unexcused absences)

D = 1. Notebook with a major section missing with
   2. At least 1 field trip or appropriate substitute assignment and
   3. Poor attendance (6 or fewer excused absences and 3 unexcused absences)

F = 1. Notebook with 2 or more sections missing or
2. No field trips or
3. Inadequate attendance (more than 6 excuse and 4 or more unexcused absences)

HONORS COMPONENT:
Any student completing 8 field trips (or appropriate substitutes) and submitting critique for each one will receive an "Honors" designation for this course. A 10-20 minute video interview on a DVD of a relative (a grandparent, parent, uncle, aunt, etc.) or an “historic” person may be substituted for any field trip report so long as any the people being interviewed mention their religion traditions.

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STOP BEFORE YOU DROP
For students who enrolled in college level courses for the first time in the fall of 2007, Texas Education Code 51.907 limits the number of courses a student may drop. You may drop no more than 6 courses during your entire undergraduate career unless the drop qualifies as an exception. Your campus counseling/advising center will give you more information on the allowable exceptions. Remember that once you have accumulated 6 non-exempt drops, you cannot drop any other courses with a “W”. Therefore, please exercise caution when dropping courses in any Texas public institution of higher learning, including all seven of the Dallas County Community Colleges. For more information, you may access: https://www1.dcccd.edu/coursedrops

FINANCIAL AID STATEMENT
Students who receive financial aid and withdraw from all Fall 2007 courses on or before November 11, 2007, will be required to repay a portion of the federal aid received. Students who complete an enrollment period with a grade of F in all courses will be required to repay a portion of financial aid received unless an instructor documents that he student participated in the class through the 60% point of the enrollment term.

WITHDRAWL POLICY: Students needing to drop must do so by 11/15/2012 failure to drop will result in a grade off. Students missing an exam will have two school days to make it up with a letter grade off (except for the last exam which has no make-up).

REPEATING THIS COURSE:
Effective for Fall Semester 2005, the Dallas County Community Colleges will charge additional tuition to students registering the third or subsequent time for a course. This class may/may not be repeated for the third or subsequent time without paying the additional tuition. Third attempts include courses taken at any of the Dallas County Community Colleges since the Fall 2002 semester.
THE TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSI)
The Texas Success Initiative (TSI) is a statewide program designed to ensure that students enrolled in Texas public colleges and universities have the basic academic skills needed to be successful in college-level course work. The TSI requires assessment, remediation (if necessary), and advising of students who attend a public college or university in the state of Texas. The program assesses a student's basic academic skills in reading, writing, and math. Passing the assessment is a prerequisite for enrollment in many college level classes. Students who do not meet assessment standards may complete prerequisite requirements by taking developmental courses in the deficient area and passing them with a grade of C or higher. Additional information is available at https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0506/admiss/tsi_requirements.cfm.

ACADEMIC HONESTY:
Academic honesty is expected, and integrity is valued in the Dallas County Community Colleges. Scholastic dishonesty is a violation of the Code of Student Conduct. Scholastic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating on a test, plagiarism, and collusion. As a college student, you are considered a responsible adult. Your enrollment indicates acceptance of the DCCCD Code of Student Conduct published in the DCCCD Catalog. More information is available at https://www1.dcccd.edu/cat0406/ss/code.cfm.

ADA STATEMENT:
If you are a student with a disability and/or special needs who requires accommodations, please contact the college Disability Services Office at 214-860-8691.

RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS:
Absences for observance of a religious holy day are excused. A student whose absence is excused to observe a religious holy day is allowed to take a make-up examination or complete an assignment within a reasonable time after the absence.

DISCLAIMER RESERVING RIGHT to CHANGE SYLLABUS:
The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as necessary.

INCLEMENT WEATHER STATEMENT: You also may refer to announcements on major television and radio stations in the event that the DCCCD or Mountain View College Internet sites cannot be accessed.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
Educational opportunities are offered by Mountain View College without regard to race, color, age, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or sexual orientation.